

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1-8 and 10-28 are currently pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-8 and 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong, U.S. Publication Application No. 2004/0127267, in view of Montgomery, U.S. Patent No. 6,441,753, in further view of Yoo, U.S. Publication Application No. 2007/0099656.

Claims 10, 11, 13, 25, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tada, U.S. Publication No. 2005/0168566, in view of Yoo.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong, in view of Montgomery, in further view of Tada.

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong, in view of Tada.

In the office action, the Examiner cited Yoo and Tada, in combination with other cited art, in order to reject claims 1-8 and 10, 11, 13-26 and 28.

However, Yoo was filed on December 18, 2006, and the present application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) of earlier filed Korean Patent Application No. 2003-0023723, which was filed April 15, 2003, and a certified copy of which was submitted together with the present application. Applicant submits herewith a

certified translation of the Korean priority document, Korean Patent Application No. 2003-0023723 to perfect priority. Moreover, there appears to be an error regarding the continuity data on the face page of the Yoo patent publication. Application No. 10/016,759 filed on Oct. 30, 2001 (now US Pat No. 6,659,448), which is incorrectly listed on the face page, is directed to an “Adjustable Separator for a Sheet Separating Device” and has nothing to do with the Yoo Patent Publication. We note that the correct parent continuity data should be application no. 11/016,759, with a filing date of December 21, 2004.

Moreover, the publication date of the non-English PCT publication of Tada is September 12, 2003, wherein the present application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) of earlier filed Korean Patent Application No. 2003-0023723, which was filed April 15, 2003, as discussed above.

For the foregoing reasons, Yoo and Tada do not qualify as prior art, and all rejections citing Yoo and Tada should be withdrawn.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12 and 27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 12 and 27 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form, but respectfully submit that a broader scope of the invention is patentable in view of the art of record. Applicants request that the rewriting of claims 12 and 27 be held in abeyance until the Examiner has had the opportunity to reconsider the allowability of their respective parent claims.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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